



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

SW

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/703,171	10/31/2000	Aman Safaei	W1200-00034	9592
8933	7590	12/23/2004	EXAMINER	
DUANE MORRIS, LLP IP DEPARTMENT ONE LIBERTY PLACE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-7396			RADA, ALEX P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3714	

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/703,171

Applicant(s)

SAFAEI ET AL.

Examiner

Alex P. Rada

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 and 92-123 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 9-15, 17-25, 92-97, 100-106, 108-116, 122 and 123 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8, 16, 26-30, 98, 99, 107 and 117-121 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In response to the amendment filed August 10, 2004 in which the applicant amends claims 121-122 and claims 1-30 and 92-123 are pending in this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-6, 9-15, 17-25, 92-97, 100-106, 108-116, and 122-123 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brenner et al. (6,089,981) in view of Boylan, III et al (US 6,712,701) and Garahi et al. (US Pub. 20010047291).

3. Brenner discloses the following:

A means for providing race entry data through a network to a user terminal having a listing of tracks, scheduled races, a means for providing race program data through the network to a user terminal (column 3, lines 32-40), a means for providing live odds through a network, and a means for updating (summary and figures 1 and 8-22) as recited in claims 1 and 92.

The race program data having program number (not shown) and postposition for each current entry in each race (summary) as recited in claims 2 and 93.

Art Unit: 3714

The race entry data further having morning line odds (column 18, line 51-61) as recited in claims 3 and 94.

The entry data further having an original jockey and trainer for each entry and current entry (column 14, line 61 – column 15, line 3) as recited in claims 4 and 95.

A means for providing a list of at least one past performance, at least one handicapping, or at least one tip selection or combination to a user on a user terminal (summary) as recited in claims 5 and 96.

A means for charging a credit card of the user, a wagering account of the user, or a promotional account of the user (column 20, line 20-34) as recited in claim 6 and 97.

A means for providing results data for currently scheduled races to a user terminal through the network after currently scheduled races have been made official and the results include finish order of entries from races and payoff for the entries on the user terminal (summary) as recited in claims 9 and 100.

a means for providing a listing of a plurality of tracks and weather conditions for the tracks displayed on the user terminals (column 6, line 51 – 58) as recited in claims 10-12 and 101-103;

a means for providing race contest new articles to the user on a user terminal (column 9, lines 11-31) as recited in claims 13 and 104;

a user to view contents news articles selected by a user and displayed on a user terminal (column 9, lines 11-31) as recited in claims 14 and 105;

Art Unit: 3714

A means for prompting a user for displaying post time for currently scheduled races and means for causing post times for currently scheduled races to be expressed in a time zone displayed on user terminal (figure 35 and column 22, line 47 – column 23, line 5) as recited in claim 15 and 106.

Brenner does not expressly disclose the following:

A means for providing race data through a computer network to a user terminal and a listing of tracks at a future day and a listing of original entries in each of the races as recited in claims 1, 9, 92, and 100.

A means for providing a board having entries including a horse, jockey, or trainer, and a means for providing selected result identifying races including a horse, jockey, or a trainer entries as recited in claims 17 and 108.

A means for causing the search result to be organized by a plurality of headings as recited in claims 18 and 109.

A means for prompting the user to select a horse, a jockey, or a trainer for providing statistical data for horse, jockey, or trainer selected by user on a user terminal as recited in claims 19 and 110.

A means for providing a race board on a user terminal having a listing of a plurality of races scheduled for a predetermined period of time and prompting a user at least one race characteristic (post-time) on a user terminal as recited in claims 20 and 111.

Race characteristic includes a plurality of headings as recited in claims 21, 24, 112, and 115.

A means for prompting user to organize search result according to a race characteristics and a means for causing the search results to be organized by a race characteristics select by the user on a user terminal as recited in claims 22 and 113.

A means for providing a race board on a user terminal having a listing of a plurality of races scheduled for a predetermined period of time, prompting the user to organized the listing by at least one race characteristic and the a means for causing the listing to be organized by race characteristics selected by the user on a user terminal as recited in claims 23 and 114.

A means for prompting the user to search the listing for race having at least one race characteristic and a means for causing the listing to be searchable for races having a race characteristic selected by the user on a user terminal as recited in claims 25 and 116.

The computer network includes the Internet as recited in claims 122 and 123.

Boylan, III et al teaches the following:

An interactive wagering service capable of having a means for providing race type data through a computer network to a user displayed to the user by a user terminal (column 3, lines 10-24 and column 4, line 64 – column 5, line 5 and figure 1).

An interactive wagering system capable of providing users content that is interactive, which the user may select displayed items to obtain additional information or to create a wager based on the selected information, in which the

examiner interprets Boylan's interactive wagering system to be a functional equivalent to the search board as recited in claims 17-25 and 108-116. By having an interactive type wagering service on a computer network, one of ordinary skill in the art would allow users to access racing information or to place wagers on an upcoming race.

Garahi et al teaches the following:

A user capable of indicating an event by which to wager on using a suitable type of interface through a private wagering network or through a public network such as the Internet. By placing future wagers on a future day, one of ordinary skill in the art would provide avid gamblers an advantage of knowing the odds and payouts for a particular race or event before the traditional parimutuel pool for races has even started.

Brenner in view of Boylan and Garahi do not expressly disclose a listing of tracks, a list for scheduled races at each of the tracks and a listing of original entries for a future event, however, it is notoriously well known in sport wagering bookings to have a listing of events, odds, point spread, and other stats for wagering on future event like boxing or the super bowl.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Brenner to further include a means for providing race data through a computer network to a user terminal, a search board means, and a listing of tracks at a future day and a listing of original entries in each of the races as taught by Boylan and Garahi to give avid bettors a hedge by

Art Unit: 3714

allowing wagerers to place bets in subsequent pools with the knowledge of the odds and payouts in the earlier pool.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 7-8, 16, 26-30, 98-99, 107, and 117-121 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-30 and 92-123 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lee US Pub. 20020065120, Hindman et al. US Pub. 20010051540, DeWeese et al. US Pub. 20010039209, and Marshall et al. (US 6735487), US Pub. 20040235561, and US Pub. 20040192435 all disclose different types of interactive sports wagering.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex P. Rada whose telephone number is 571-272-4452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 08:00-16:00.

Art Unit: 3714

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 571-272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AM
APR



DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700